

National Park Service  
Northeast Region

**Memorandum of Understanding  
with the Europarc Federation**  
Northeast Region Park Questionnaire

Name: Marianne Peak  
Position: Superintendent  
**Park** Adams National Historical Park  
**Heritage Area**  
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☒ ☐ Yes, we are interested in sharing information and expertise with a protected area in Europe.

*If you are currently working with an area in Europe, please note that here:*

☐ No, we are not interested.

*Please state reason:*

**1. If yes, on which topics would you be interested in pursuing cooperation?**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> organizational development      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ecotourism                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sustainability                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> marketing                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> multi jurisdictional management | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> financing                       | <input type="checkbox"/> other (please state) wildlife management |

**2. If yes, what type of communication exchange would you be interested in?**

- ☒ at staff level (professional development)
- ☒ at partner level (Presidents, Board Members)
- ☐ other stakeholders (e.g. farmers, tourism businesses)

*continued ....*

**3. If yes, please give a short description of the features of your park and main areas of current work. Please note the cultural and/or natural connections/similarities to countries/places in Europe if possible:**

The purpose of Adams National Historical Park is to "preserve for public use the sites associated with the Adams family, as well as the birthplaces of Presidents John Adams and John Quincy Adams; and to stimulate an appreciation of the Adams family, which by its dedication to public service and its contributions in the field of literature, has strongly influenced the course of the United States of America."

Adams National Historical Park is the only place in America where the stories of two presidents can be told from birth to death. The site's main historic features include: John Adams Birthplace, where 2nd U.S. President John Adams was born on October 30, 1735, and less than 75 yards away the John Quincy Adams Birthplace, where his son, John Quincy Adams, 6th U.S. President was born on July 11, 1767; the "Old House," home to four generations of the Adams family; the Stone Library contains more than 14,000 historic volumes and includes the book collection of John Quincy Adams. In all three homes and the library, visitors are treated to historical furnishings, fine art, memorabilia, and collectibles that tell the story of this extraordinary family from the 18th to the 20th centuries. From the original wallpaper that still exists on some of the walls to the dinnerware, paintings, and light fixtures, we learn of changes in style and technology over 200 years of occupation by the Adams family.

One of the most notable aspects of the Adams family story is their long standing connection with U.S. Diplomacy. John Adams served as a diplomat to France, the Netherlands, and Great Britain and negotiated an end to the American Revolutionary War. John Quincy served as Minister to the Netherlands, Prussia, Russia, Great Britain and helped to negotiate an end to the War of 1812. John Quincy Adams' son Charles Francis Adams served as the United States Minister to Great Britain during the American Civil War. While serving in these posts the Adamses paid great attention to all aspects of connections with other nations. They were intent on learning about foreign cultures to gain useful knowledge for the United States. They understood that true diplomacy took many forms, political, commercial, cultural, and scientific. Truly they served as conduits for an interchange of ideas that increased understanding and cooperation between the U.S. and many of its global partners.

Because of the Adams Family's sustained, substantial association with relations between the United States and Europe, Adams NHP sees a natural benefit in establishing links with the Europarc Federation. The Park particularly would like to work with this organization to preserve, protect, and interpret those historical, natural, and cultural resources associated with the Adams family story, including landmarks various members of the family visited, institutions that foster greater understanding between the U.S. and Europe. This interchange will benefit each partner to understand better the sustained, qualitative and quantitative connections between the U.S. and Europe and the contributions that we as individuals can make to foster closer ties as evidenced by the Adams family example.

Signed: Marianne Peak

Date: 9/15/2003

Please return by June 28, 2003 to: Edie Shean-Hammond  
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